

Competition Policy and the Real Estate Industry



A public workshop hosted by the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice

Agenda

October 25, 2005

9:00 - 9:30 *Opening Remarks*

- Deborah Platt Majoras, Chairman, Federal Trade Commission
- Thomas O. Barnett, Acting Assistant Attorney General for Antitrust, Department of Justice

9:30 - 10:30 Overview of the Real Estate Transaction

Moderator:

• Maureen K. Ohlhausen, Director, Office of Policy Planning, FTC

Panelists:

- Robert W. Hahn, Executive Director, AEI-Brookings Joint Center
- Catherine B. Whatley, 2003 President of National Association of Realtors

10:30 -10:45 Break

10:45 - 12:15 Issues Affecting Competition Among Sellers' Brokers

Moderator:

James C. Cooper, Assistant Director, Office of Policy Planning, FTC

Panelists:

- Aaron Farmer, Owner, Texas Discount Realty
- Thomas R. Kunz, President and Chief Executive Officer, Century 21 Real Estate
- Sam Licklider, Missouri Association of Realtors
- Colby Sambrotto, Chief Operating Officer, ForSaleByOwner.com
- Wayne Thorburn, Adminstrator, Texas Real Estate Commission

12:15 - 1:30 Lunch

1:30 - 1:45 Remarks by Commissioner Jon Leibowitz

1:45 - 3:30 Issues Affecting Competition Among Buyers' Brokers

Moderator:

Lee Quinn, Attorney, Litigation III, Antitrust Division, DOJ

Panelists:

- Alexander Perriello, President and Chief Executive Officer, Cendant Real Estate Franchise Group
- Philip Henderson, Vice President, LendingTree, LLC
- Catherine B. Whatley, 2003 President of National Association of Realtors
- Tom Early, National Association of Exclusive Buyer Agents
- Geoff Lewis, Senior Vice President/Chief Legal Officer, RE/MAX International, Inc.
- Steve DelBianco, Executive Director NetChoice Coalition

3:30 - 3:45 Break

3:45 - 5:00 Empirical Evidence on Competition in the Real Estate Industry

Moderator:

• Michael A. Salinger, Director, Bureau of Economics, FTC

Panelists:

- Chang-Tai Hsieh, Associate Professor of Economics, University of California
- Lawrence Yun, Managing Director of Quantitative Research, National Association of Realtors

5:00 Closing Remarks

- Susan A. Creighton, Director, Bureau of Competition, FTC
- Robert Kramer, Director of Operations, DOJ